

AUGUST



The Elba Clipper

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Residents attend town hall meeting focused on downtown revitalization

by Linda Hodge, Editor

A good number of Elba citizens attended a town hall meeting last Thursday evening, July 29, to hear a presentation regarding downtown revitalization for the City of Elba.

Cheryl Morgan, an architect representing Auburn University, has been working on a plan for Elba's downtown revitalization for several months now, and she hosted the final of three town hall meetings last week to present her ideas to local residents before putting them in a final draft form.

"I invite you to walk downtown Elba," Morgan said as she began the presentation.

She said she and her team members came to Elba knowing there would be great opportunities for revitalization, and those expectations were met.

"Historic downtowns are good places for people to come when the weather is nice or weather is bad for their vacation," Morgan insisted. "I think your closeness to the beach is a real asset."

Although she said many of the ideas she would present

would be 5 to 10 years out from completion or longer, Morgan said the city must have a plan before it can move forward.

Market she hit heavily on is that of senior citizens. Morgan said she believes senior citizens are a market the city can definitely expand upon, and one idea she suggested was to build a new, expanded senior citizen's center.

She also suggested the development of a residential neighborhood in the area of the old schools.

Morgan said the city might want to look at making the land

between the levee and river into a greenway park. She said this represents some recreation opportunities and would offer more places for people to go to and get down to the water.

"Your identity is so tied to the (Pea) River," said Morgan. "I think there should be more ways to get to the river."

She mentioned renovating the boat ramp and possibly building an amphitheater on the land next to this area.

Morgan said the whole purpose of this project is to give people good reasons to come to downtown Elba and the first and most important thing will be to get "your own people downtown."

"Retention is a good way," she said.

With that in mind, Morgan said she believes the revitalization plan should put a big emphasis on how walkable things are in downtown Elba.

"Walking and participating in the downtown is a social experience," she said. "You want to make a good impression for the people coming into the downtown."

Therefore, she said an important aspect is to showcase the things that make a person proud to come into a community such as a new senior center, a community center, renovations to the Folsom house, a possible visitor's center at the old jail and a museum.

Morgan said all of these things will not only allow Elba to celebrate its history, but they also will attract visitors to the community.

Morgan ended her presentation by fielding questions from those in attendance. She said she will send a final draft of her plan in a month or so, and it can be displayed as a reminder of what needs to be done.

At that point, she said it is up to the citizens of Elba to approach the project and begin to move forward.

County BOE approves purchase of four buses

by Linda Hodge, Editor

During a special meeting, the Coffee County Board of Education met Wednesday, July 28, to purchase four new buses for the school system.

Because of an increase in fleet renewal funds, Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram recommended the board approve the purchase of four new buses instead of just

three.

For buses 10-years-old or less, the school system receives fleet renewal money. In 2003-04, Ingram said the school system received \$4,243 for 19 buses meeting that requirement. In 2004-05, she said the system had 18 buses qualify for \$4,890 in fleet renewal money.

Altogether, the system received \$168,637 in fleet renewal money for the two years.

Before last Wednesday's meeting, bids were opened for new buses, and Southland International submitted the low bid at \$52,981.65 per bus.

Ingram said the school system could either buy three buses and have \$9,692.05 left in reserve, or it could buy four buses by putting \$43,289.60 of local funds with the fleet renewal

mer break, and Ingram encouraged all board members to attend this ribbon cutting ceremony.

Board members seemed to agree with the recommendation as they passed it by a unanimous vote.

Board members also agreed with personnel recommendations from Ingram as they passed the following actions:

* Accept the resignation of Danny Hollis, math teacher at New Brockton High School.

* Employ Sandy Forehand as a math teacher at New Brockton High School.

* Employ Mike Davis as a math teacher at Zion Chapel School, pending his release from another school system.

* Accept the resignation of Glenda G. Haynes-White, secretary/bookkeeper at New Brockton Elementary School.

Before adjourning, Ingram also announced board members of the ribbon cutting ceremony planned for the New Brockton High School library Thursday, Aug. 5, at 6 p.m. The library was remodeled during the sum-

mer break, and Ingram encouraged all board members to attend this ribbon cutting ceremony.

The COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION will hold the first public hearing to present the system-wide budget for Fiscal Year 2005 on Monday, Aug. 9, at 12 Noon. The second public hearing will be at 6:15 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 12. Both public hearings will be held at the board of education administrative office at 400 Reddick Hill Road, Elba, Ala. Parents, teachers and interested citizens may attend these budget hearings. Budget forms will be available at the superintendent's office prior to the hearing. On Thursday, Aug. 12, the board will hold its regular meeting at 7 p.m. to approve the FY 2005 budget.

THE NEW BROCKTON TOWN COUNCIL will hold its regular monthly meeting Monday, Aug. 9, at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at the New Brockton Town Hall.

THE ELBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE will sponsor a fund raiser to purchase lighted and landscaped brick entrance signs for the city. The event will be held Thursday, Aug. 12, at the Elba Recreation Center on Claxton Ave. beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The menu will include: pork chops, baked potato, salad, dessert, bread and tea. Entertainment will be provided, and political candidates will be recognized, given an opportunity to introduce themselves and announce what office he/she is seeking.

Area Happenings

by Linda Hodge, Editor

THE COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION will hold its regular monthly meeting Monday, Aug. 9, at 9 a.m. in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

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NOTICE

The Town of New Brockton will not hold a municipal election Tuesday, Aug. 24.

Instead, the new mayor and council will be declared winners during the Monday, Aug. 9, meeting of the current town council at 7 p.m.

According to 2004 Alabama Election Law, if only one candidate is running per district and only one candidate for mayor, the present council can declare all winners.

Those candidates being declared winners Monday evening will be Charles Cole, Mayor; Johnny Harrison, District 1; Vicki Harrison, District 2; Cal Donison, Howard, District 3; Richard Driskell, District 4; and Jeff White, District 5.

The candidates will officially take office Oct. 1st.

Neighborhood restoration not only improves the quality of life for residents, it also enhances the town's potential for future development," Riley said. "I commend New Brockton officials for their efforts to revitalize this neighborhood and move the community forward."

The project is part of the town's long-term effort to eliminate substandard housing for low and moderate-income households where residents do not have the financial means to undertake such efforts themselves. The 44 residents who live in the targeted area can look forward to safer and more energy-efficient homes once the rehabilitation project is completed.

Riley awarded the Community Development Block Grant from funds made available to the state by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. He has designated the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs to administer the grant.

ADECA director John Harrison notified Mayor Charles B. Cole that the grant had been approved. Local matching funds of \$72,600 have been committed to the project.

Elba citizens Rhonda Brunson, Laurie Chapman and Jane Brunson discuss ideas presented by Cheryl Morgan last Thursday evening, July 29, following the town hall meeting. Morgan had several maps and other visual displays. She presented many ideas for the downtown area in which she said is imagining in Elba's future.

BOYS BEST FRIEND...Relationships between child and animal were displayed last Thursday, July 29, when the Elba Chamber of Commerce presented "Pets on Parade." The first-time event, held at the Elba Recreation Center, allowed children ages 12 and under to "show-off" their animals' beauty and talents. Winners were named in three different divisions - small dogs, large dogs and fury friends.

Although no felines could be found, an array of dogs and one rabbit were presented for admiration by the onlookers. Jantzen Flowers and his canine companion, Rock, (shown above) were entrants in the large dog division. Loyalty between handler and animal was certainly evident as Rock patiently waited for the judges to finish their inspection while Jantzen petted him. Additional pictures, including winners, can be found on Page 16 of the newspaper.

Governor Riley awards \$400,000 to New Brockton for neighborhood revitalization

Governor Bob Riley has awarded \$400,000 to the Town of New Brockton to help fund a neighborhood revitalization project. The grant will be used to repair or replace 22 houses in an area near McKinnon and John streets.

The deteriorating homes will not only improve the quality of life for residents, it also enhances the town's potential for future development," Riley said. "I commend New Brockton officials for their efforts to revitalize this neighborhood and move the community forward."

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EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

Today we are pondering another of those problems of which we have no sure fire solution. Drug prices continue to rise as does everything else. However the price of drugs are far outstripping that of other consumer goods. We recently read an article out of Washington that underscored and confirms our thoughts on this matter. In 1903 the price of prescription drugs rose three times faster than general inflation. Since President Bush signed the Medicare bill into law the increase was even sharper. Users of many brand name drugs have reported that prices skyrocketed after the federal drug program was announced. The report listed a number of (25 top sellers) established, mainstream drugs and showed increases of up to 10% just since the new bill was approved. Actually we shouldn't be surprised. And of course good lobbying by the drug companies prevents the federal government from setting the approved prices on these drugs. Look around you at anything the government subsidizes and remember the price jumps when the free market prices were taken out of the equation!

People often show a hard headed tunnel vision when talking about their children and grandchildren. A prime example was this week when a woman said - in our face, without blinking or stuttering, that her grandchildren were prettier and sweeter than ours! This is a woman we have always considered broad-minded, intelligent, etc., but . . . now(?)

We recently read about a politician who was offended because someone had compared him to "Man's Best Friend". The fact the man was offended was brought to the attention of the leader of the opposition group and it inspired him to make an instant apology . . . to the dogs of the world and his pet in particular!

America is under alert for a terrorist attack . . . again. There has got to be a reality check in this business of warning Americans of so many pending attacks "as reported by credit sources". While the public can assume the warnings are efforts to prevent another disaster as was "9-11", the truth may be that these continued warnings and no visible danger are causing Americans to think of the child's that repeatedly gives false warnings that "the sky is falling". Another idea is that the terrorists don't have to get out of bed in the morning to terrorize us . . . they just allow us to "discover" some of their plans that talk about blowing up certain buildings, bridges and/or parts of our cities.

It was a shock to hear that former Elba football coach Leon Akins had died. We recall his first day (in 1967) as Elba's head coach when there were not enough players out for practice to field an offense and defense for scrimmage . . . he ended that season with an incredible 8-2 win-loss record.

LATE OBIT

ELIZABETH L. BLACKMAN

Elizabeth L. Blackman, age 84, of Elba, Ala. died Monday, August 2, 2004, died at Decedent's Residence in Greenville, Ala.

Services are being held today (Thursday, August 5, 2004) at 10 a.m. The Clergy is Rev. Felton Stewart at Evergreen Cemetery, Elba.

Mrs. Blackman was preceded in death by her husband, Mr. Bennie Blackman.

PRIVATE
GARY C. WILLIAMS

is a 2001 Elba High School graduate. Gary is currently serving in the United States Military in Korea and will be leaving for Iraq on August 5th. His father and brother



Pvt. Gary C. Williams
Danny and Chad Williams of Elba ask that you continue to support and pray for all troops serving our country.

WE LOVE AND MISS YOU GARY!
FROM ALL OF YOUR FAMILY

The Elba Clipper

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year
6 months - \$10, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 months - \$11

Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13



GIVING TO THE COMMUNITY...On Monday, Aug. 2, the NBC Girls (Newby Baptist Church) presented a large selection of coloring books, story books, puzzles and a few toys to Deb Godfrey, RN, at the Elba General Hospital.

The girls will be used for children that visit the hospital ER. The NBC Girls collected spare change for a month from each Sunday School class at Newby Baptist Church to purchase the items. Pictured above with the donated items are (front, left to right): Sarah Allen, Brittany Compton, Megan Cox and Julia Harrell; (back, left to right): Deb Godfrey and Kathy Harrell - GA Leader. Not pictured is Cassandra Nelson, also a member of the NBC Girls. Newby Baptist Church is located on Coffee County Road 330.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, July 26, 2004, investigated the following incidents: one harassing communication, one disorderly conduct, one domestic violence, two for assault, three for battery, one receiving stolen property, two private property rights, two for criminal mischief, one theft of property and one burglary.

The following arrests were made: one for disorderly conduct and one for failure to pay traffic citations issued during the week as follows: three for proof of insurance, one for driving under the influence, one for a suspended driver's license, daily driving license for the week as follows:

MONDAY, JULY 26 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 627 County Rd. 107 (3:52 a.m.); Wreck reported in front of Hardie's (8:46 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1567 Gibson St. (6:57 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1567 Gibson St. (6:57 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Waynes Farms (10:13 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JULY 27 - Domestic disturbance reported at 737 Cedar Lane (12:27 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1611 Parker St. (2:49 p.m.); Disturbance reported on Collier St. at the old high school (11:11 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Dixon St. (11:15 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28 - Domestic disturbance reported at 353 County Circle (3:57 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 315 Calhoun St. (5:56 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 617 Parker St. (9:52 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1611 Parker St. (12:37 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 24884 Hwy. 87 S. (5:51 p.m.); Two-vehicle wrecks reported on Elm St. (6:15 p.m.).

THURSDAY, JULY 29 - Domestic disturbance reported at 708 Coffee County EMS (5:06 a.m.); Wreck reported in front of Hardie's (8:46 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1611 Parker St. (12:37 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 24884 Hwy. 87 S. (5:51 p.m.); Two-vehicle wrecks reported on Elm St. (6:15 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JULY 30 - Domestic disturbance reported at 117 Dunham St. (9:32 a.m.).

SATURDAY, JULY 31 - Domestic disturbance reported at 873 Cedar Lane (12:27 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1611 Parker St. (2:49 p.m.); Disturbance reported on Collier St. at the old high school (11:11 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Dixon St. (11:15 p.m.).

SUNDAY, AUG. 1 - Private property accident reported at the Family Dollar Store parking lot (8:53 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1254 Martin Luther King Dr. (8:46 p.m.).

MONDAY, AUG. 2 - MURKIN, JAMES - 7 p.m. - Info Baptist Church.

TUESDAY, AUG. 3 - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. City Hall

• WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday 6 p.m. City Hall

• ELBA MINISTERIAL - Assn. Tues. - 4 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

• GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - every Monday - 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall on W. Davis St. Maguire Center

• COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Center, Elba Fair Center Complex of New Brockton

• LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Elba Civic Center

• ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 1st Thru - 5:30 p.m. - Supt. Office

• AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Legion Hall - 700 p.m. Legion Hall - Troy Hwy.

• MASONIC LODGE 170 - 1st & 3rd Monday - 7 p.m. Legion Hall

• BAND BOOSTERS - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School

• VETERANS SERVICE CENTER - Mon. - Fri. - 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex, 894-5858

• COOKE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. - 9 p.m. Club House

• COFFEE COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. - Noon - Colony Inn, Enterprise

• ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 2nd & 4th Monday at noon, Driscoll Hangar at the Airport

• AARP meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month at the Elba High School

• COFFEE ATHLETIC CLUB - 1st & 3rd Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba High School locker room

• NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB - Every 3rd Tuesday at pm

• COFFEE COUNTY BAPTIST FEDERATION - 1st & 3rd Monday at pm

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• COFFEE COUNTY BAPTIST FEDER

CHURCH & AREA NEWS



FOR EVERY 100 BOYS WHO JOIN A BOY SCOUT TROOP: Twelve will have their first contact with a church. Three will enter the clergy or a religious vocation. Eight will enter a career that was learned through the merit badge system. Approximately one-half will serve in the military. One will use his scouting skills to save the life of another. Two will use these skills to save their own life. Twenty-one will become adult Scouting volunteers. Three will become Eagle Scouts.

Since 1998, eight boys from Elba Troop 37 have reached the Eagle Rank. Each of them completed a service project that benefited their community.

Elba Troop 37 will hold an Open House on Monday, August 16. It will be held at the Elba Recreation Center, at 7 p.m. All boys who are least 11 years old, or have completed 5th grade, and are interested in joining a troop are urged to attend. Also invited, are those wishing to learn more about our troop or the Scouting Program.

Samford University & Judson College
with Coffee Baptist Association
Offer classes in Coffee County

Children's Choir Methods
taught by Dr. Denice Tipton
Ed.D. in Music, University of Alabama
6:30 - 7:30 P.M.

The Gospel of Mark
taught by Dr. John Granger
Th.D. New Testament, NOBTS
7:40 - 8:40 P.M.

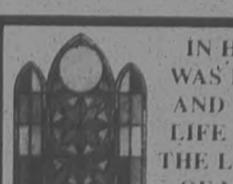
Monday Nights: August 16 - November 29, 2004

Elba County Baptist Center
603 East McKinnon, New Brockton, Alabama 36351

Samford University will give continuing education credits.
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For further information, call (334) 894-6411
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BAPTIST

SPORTS

Views from...

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

We went school shopping last week, and while Mom got a little flustered at times, I just kept my cool, waited and watched as Melanie tried on clothes and then handed them over for me to pay for. We walked at least a few miles and spent hours going in and out of stores, but I thought it went well and for the first time in years we actually came home with more than blue jeans and t-shirts. Not bad at all.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** The Elba Tigers will dress out for pictures this week and word is that the Tigers had between 40-50 players on the field early in the week when pre-season practice officially got underway. The Tigers should have more depth than they have had in years with at least half the team going only one way, and that should help keep the team fresh in the hot weather and build team unity. Back over the past few years, when Elba was struggling to post a winning record I pointed to the 2004 and 2005 seasons as the years the Tigers would be back on top, and now that the season is only a few weeks away I hope I was right. One thing is certain, the excitement is back!

*** This has been a summer filled with coaching changes, and it only got a little stranger last weekend when it was announced that Opp Bobcat head coach Jeff Rhoades and Opp High School assistant principal Johnny Wood had switched roles. Rhoades had been the head coach at Opp for the past four years and last season led the Bobcats to a 9-3 record, while Wood had been out of coaching for four years after being the head coach at the Opp Middle School. While the change came a little late, Wood has been at Opp since 1981 and might pump some new life into the overall program. The move may be for the best, but the timing wasn't exactly what anyone had in mind.

*** The Elba Athletic Club is now in the midst of its annual membership drive and I urge all Elba Tiger fans in all sports to join the club to help finance all sports for both boys and girls. The money crunch has hit high schools hard all across the nation, and in an edition of USA TODAY last Friday an article dealt with the growing trend toward students paying fees to play sports. It was reported that there are schools in 34 states that already require students to help pay the expense of sports, with fees as high as 18 percent of the schools' total state making the students pay their way. While the fees average \$75-100 per sport, at one school in Ohio students must pay \$630 per sport to participate, \$430 per sport for middle school athletics, \$350 to join in the band and \$260 to join a school club. Since I have one daughter that is very active, the bill for me would be \$1,890 for her to play volleyball, softball and be a cheerleader, not counting over \$1,000 to be in four clubs. We in Elba are lucky that our kids can play any sport they wish at little or no cost, and be in school clubs for only a minimal annual fee. This can only continue if the schools receive support from the public and their alumni, and that is as good a reason as I can think of for all of us joining the Elba Athletic Club today!

*** In closing... the Elba Recreation Department is sponsoring "fall baseball" this year for the first time ever and one team has formed for boys ages 13-14. The team will compete against teams from other towns, with games on week nights and weekends, and will give youth that don't want to play football something to keep them busy. Hey, if they want to play they should get the chance, and maybe it will be a success and start a new fall sport for kids in many cities across South Alabama.

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Elba Tigers will be only one of three new faces in Class 2A, Region 2 football line-up for 2004 season

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

The realignment of its members schools by the Alabama High School Athletic Association for the next two years had a major impact on the make-up of Class 2A, Region 2, as three schools left the region and three new schools moved in.

St. Lucie moved up into the 3A ranks, while Red Level remained 2A, but moved into Region 1, and G.W. Long also remained in Class 2A, but made the move into Region 3. The three newcomers in Region 2 will be Elba, a long time Class 3A school, along with Cottonwood and Houston County, both of which made the move up from the 1A ranks.

Following is brief preview of each school in the region:

*** Cottonwood Bears - The Bears are coached by Wiregrass veteran Willard Whitcomb and over the past two years have been in the playoffs in Class 1A. The Bears posted a 2-4 record a year ago and should be considered one of the favorites to take the region title this season.

*** Elba Tigers - The Tigers are coached by Scott Rials and made the move into the 2A ranks after many years as both a 4A and more recently a 3A

Brantley Bulldogs expected to continue dominance in Class 1A, Region 2 action

*** Brantley - The Bulldogs will once again be coached by David Lowry and will be looking to claim yet another region title. The Bulldogs swept past all region opponents the past two seasons without a loss and last year posted a 12-1 record. Brantley has been a 1A power for years and this season should be no different.

*** Flora - The Wildcats will be back under the leadership of Coach Doug Vickery and should near the state line has football fever after last year's 5-6 slate and a trip to the playoffs. The Wildcats turned into a solid 1A team a year ago and the season might very well be the year the 'Cats threaten to take a region crown.

*** Arion - The Purple Cats will be under the guidance of veteran coach Julius Head and should once again be a contender for the region title. The 'Cats posted a 7-4 record a year ago and made big noise after a number of losing seasons, and should be even better this year as Coach Head has had one full season and a spring training to teach his system.

CLASS 2A - REGION 2

Cottonwood Bears (8-4)

Elba Tigers (3-7)

Geneva County Bulldogs (1-9)

Houston Academy Raiders (10-3)

Houston County Lions (5-5)

New Brockton Gamecocks (6-4)

Samson Tigers (2-8)

Wicksburg Panthers (1-9)

season are convinced the best is on the way. The Lions may be a sleeper this season in the eighth region.

*** New Brockton - The Gamecocks of Coach Shannan Clark have been a consistent winner in the region for a number of years and expect to continue that tradition this season.

The Gamecocks are reported to be down in numbers, but it takes a special player to wear the Gamecock jersey and the team should be another winning candidate for Brockton.

*** Samson - The Tigers went into the summer without a coach, but hired a new leader several weeks back and spirits

are high that the Tigers are ready to regain their spot in the playoffs. The Tigers struggled to a 2-8 record last season and had little to cheer about. However, a new coach and a new attitude are now on campus, and more wins should follow.

*** Wicksburg - The Panthers

will also be under the leadership of a new coach and players and fans are hoping the team can improve from its 1-9 slate of a year ago.

The Panthers have been big winners in other sports, and if the new coach can unite the athletic program they should be able to make huge strides in a hurry.

CLASS 1A - REGION 2

Arlon Purple Cats (7-4)

Brantley Bulldogs (12-1)

Flora Wildcats (5-6)

Goshen Eagles (3-7)

Kinston Bulldogs (3-6)

McKenzie Tigers (0-10)

Pleasant Home Eagles (1-8)

Zion Chapel Rebels (1-9)

Winners keep on winning in racing action at SAS

By Mark Chisum

The state's new alignment has little impact on the make-up of Class 1A, Region 2, as only two teams moved out of the eight-team region and both holes were filled with area teams.

Cottonwood and Houston County both left the region and moved up to the 2A ranks, while moving in were 1A neighbor McKenzie and 2A Goshen, also a team close to the teams already in the region.

Following is a preview of the region:

*** Arion - The Purple Cats will be under the guidance of veteran coach Julius Head and should once again be a contender for the region title. The 'Cats posted a 7-4 record a year ago and made big noise after a number of losing seasons, and should be even better this year as Coach Head has had one full season and a spring training to teach his system.

*** Goshen - The Eagles will be coached by Tim Brown and all Goshen fans are hoping the move to 1A will pump life into the once-pride football program that last season struggled to a 3-7 slate. The Eagles did struggle last season, but it was a 2A team in a very tough region. Goshen may be a team to watch this season.

*** Kinston - The Bulldogs will be under the direction of new coach Larry Coney and most football fanatics are convinced the 'Dogs will be better than ever when the '04 season kicks off. The Bulldogs have yet to be big winners in the 1A ranks on the gridiron. However, they have been a threat to any and all opponents, and maybe that is the year the Bulldogs bite will be as bad as its bark.

*** McKenzie - The Tigers don't have a football coach as late as last week and after last season's 0-10 finish it looks like another long year could be in the cards. The Tigers do have the athletes to be competitive in all sports, and if they can get a new coach and develop a new attitude, the wins could come. Well, maybe not this year.

*** Pleasant Home - The Eagles will be back under the leadership of Coach Jimmy Reeves and after struggling to a 1-8 slate a year ago, the Eagles are hungry to feast on more wins and make a trip back to the 1A playoffs. The Eagles will have a number of quality players back and with a little luck could be a sleeper in the region race.

*** Zion Chapel - The Rebels will be back under the guidance of Coach Harry Lees and hopes are high in the Rebel camp that this will be the season. Zion Chapel returns to its winning ways of the past. The Rebels struggled last season and stumbled home with a 1-9 record, but spirits are high on campus and this could be a team to keep an eye on.

Continued...please see "Racing Action" on page 7

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SPORTS

Youth football and cheerleading registration now underway in Elba

Death claims former Elba Tiger coach Leon Akins

The Elba Tiger football family lost one of its most popular and most successful former coaches last week when Leon Akins passed away at a health care facility in Mobile.

Coach Akins had been a resident of a health care facility for a number of years as he fought the affects of rheumatoid arthritis and died last week following complications from surgery.

Akins was a graduate of Atmore High School and the University of Southern Mississippi and began his coaching career as an assistant coach at UMS, in Mobile. He remained on staff at UMS for three years, and then moved to Andalusia High School, where he was an assistant coach for two years. Akins was named as the head football coach at Elba High School in 1967 and in five years at the Elba helm led the Tigers to an overall record of 36-12. In 1970 Coach Akins led the Tigers to an 8-2 record, was named the Coach of the Year in the South Alabama Conference and was chosen as a coach for the Alabama High School All-Star game.

Team on Elba's schedule this season will include New Brockton, Zion Chapel, Kinston, Brantley, Luverne and Pleasant Home, while other teams in the league include Flora, Goshen and Highland Home.

Registration is now underway for all boys ages 6-12 that wish to play youth football this fall on Saturday, beginning at 5:30 PM. Practice will begin the first week in August.

There are three age divisions for the teams in the league, with the age of a player being determined by his age on August 1, 2004. Boys ages 6-8 will play in the Midget division, while boys ages 9-12 will compete in the Pee Wee division.

All boys are encouraged to give teams as much practice time as possible prior to the beginning of the season. For more information call the Elba Recreation Center, at the Elba City Pool and from Coach Williams.

A registration fee of \$20 is required for each player, with complete equipment available

for rent from the Elba Parks and Recreation Department for an all day session.

Registration forms are available at the Elba City Pool and from Coach Williams.

Any girls ages 6-12 that are interested in cheering for the midget, terrace or pee wee football teams this fall in Elba should call Coach Williams at 897-6022, or 897-6021 PM.

Registration is now underway in all age divisions and will end on August 6, with no exceptions.

Registration forms are available at the Elba Recreation Center, at the Elba City Pool and from Coach Williams.

"Coach Akins taught the players to be proud of their school and blended football and school pride into one powerful force," stated Coach Leavy Boutwell, an Elba grad that played under Coach Akins for four years. "I learned a lot from Coach Akins and at every school I have ever taught and coached I always encouraged every player to love their school and be proud to wear the school colors. Coach Akins made certain that every one of his players at Elba High School were proud to be Elba Tigers, and even after thirty-four years I am still an Elba Tiger and will be an Elba Tiger all my life."

"Coach Akins taught his players to play the game of football with dignity and was able to relate to the players and to the game," added Coach Boutwell. "Back in the late 60's he installed the wishbone offense at Elba, and at that time the only teams that ran the offense were the University of Texas and the Elba Tigers. He could adjust to the game and relate to the players. He was a big reason I chose to get into coaching and his beliefs always had a great deal to do with the kind of coach I became."

Coach Akins is survived by his wife Geri Akins; two sons, George Meador Akins and Thad Still Akins; and three brothers, Jim Akins, Jerry Akins and Eddie Akins. Coach Akins was a graduate of Atmore High School and was a member of the 1967 All-Star team. He was a coach for the Elba High School football team for 12 years and was a coach for the Elba High School basketball team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School baseball team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School softball team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School tennis team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School golf team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School swimming team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School track and field team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School football team for 12 years and was a coach for the Elba High School basketball team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School baseball team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School softball team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School tennis team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School golf team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School swimming team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School track and field team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School football team for 12 years and was a coach for the Elba High School basketball team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School baseball team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School softball team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School tennis team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School golf team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School swimming team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School track and field team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School football team for 12 years and was a coach for the Elba High School basketball team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School baseball team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School softball team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School tennis team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School golf team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High School swimming team for 10 years and was a coach for the Elba High School track and field team for 10 years. He was a coach for the Elba High

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CARPENTER, Q P
CAULEY, ELIZABETH ANN
CAULEY, LOUISE D
CHISM, BELINDA LASHAWN
CHISM, WILLIE RAY
CHURCH, SHERRY JEAN
CLEMONS, NELL K
COLE, KATHRYN
COLE, LORINZER
COLE, TALMADGE, SR
COLE, VERSIE MAE
COLEMAN, DIANNE
COLEMAN, IDA MAE
COLQUETT, FAY H
CONN, ETHEL JORENE
COOK, JAMES DREXEL
COOK, NELL YOUNG
COOKS, JESSE JAMES
COOKS, MARY JANE
COOPER, LUTHER BANCROFT
COOPER, MARGARET
COOPER, ROBERT L JR
COPES, ELSIE P
CORLEY, JACK
CRAIGHEAD, FELICIA ANN
CROOK, CUPIDAEAN M
CROOK, HAROLD R
CROOK, LLOYD MADISON
CROOK, OPAL S
CULVER, HELEN
CULVER, JAMES ERIC
CULVER, RUSHIE
CULVER, WILLIE OLDEN
CUNNINGHAM, MELISSA L
DANIELS, BRENDA FAYE
DANIELS, CORENE
DANIELS, DERRICK SANTELL
DANIELS, DOMINIQUE DANIE
DANIELS, GLENNE LEISHA
DANIELS, GRACE RENA
DANIELS, JAMES HOWARD
DANIELS, JAMES HOWARD
DANIELS, JOHN FRANK
DANIELS, JOHNNIE MAE
DANIELS, JOHNNY S
DANIELS, LAKESHIA D
DANIELS, MARY LOU
DANIELS, MINNIE PEARL
DANIELS, O B
DANIELS, SHARLENE
DAVIS, IRIS S
DAVIS, JEWEL MCINTOSH
DAVIS, ROY EDWIN
DAWSON, KRISTY MICHELLE
DAWSON, MARY LEE
DEAN, FORREST ARNOLD
DIXON, MARY AGNES
DIXON, SYLVIA YVETTE
DORSEY, SHIRLEY M
EDWARDS, ALICE MERLE
ELLIS, BETTY WATSON
ELLIS, CHARLES G
ELLISON, RUBY H
ENGLISH, WILLIAM L

**All voters in the Elba City Elections
scheduled for August 24th,
and September 14th, 2004
will vote at the Elba Recreation Center
(Old National Guard Armory)
on Claxton Ave.
Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7: p.m.
The facility is handicapped accessible.**

FARMER, JACKIE O
FARRIS, AMELIA KAREN
FARRIS, GEORGE
FITZPATRICK, KATHY RENEE
FLEMING, DORAY
FLOWERS, ALISHA
FLOWERS, LOETTE
FOLMAR, CARLOS MARCHER
FOLMAR, FANNIE LOIS
FORRIESTER, HELEN ANN
FULTON, ROBERT GLENN
GIBBS, BILLY M
GILBERT, JOHN LARRY
GOOLSBY, CLIDIE B
GOOLSBY, ELAINE
GOOSBY, KEVIN S
GOOSBY, PAULA SUZANNE
GOOSBY, TERRY
GRANTHAM, JEFF LARRY
GRANTHAM, LESLIE B
GRAY, ASHLEY SELENTO
GRAY, WINZEL
GRIDER, GEORGE L JR
GRIDER, MARY S
GRIFFIN, LAKISHA RENNA
GRIFFIN, MARION C
HAIRE, MARGARET S
HALL, GLENNETTE HORST
HALL, MELANIE ELAINE
HAMMOND, ANNETTE
HAMMOND, LAKIA
HAMMONDS, LUCILLE
HAMMONDS, ROGIE LYNN
HAMMONDS, SANDRA ANN
HAMMONDS, SHEAUNA SHARAE
HAMMONDS, SHANNON O'SHAY
HAMMONDS, TERRELL B
HAMMONDS, THOMAS JR
HAMMONDS, WILSON MAE
HARDWICK, EDWIN ANDERSON
HARDWICK, RAMONA A
HARDWICK, RITA RENEE
HARDWICK, RITA
HARRIS, LOUISE J
HEAD, FRANKIE LEE
HEAD, GABRIEL
HEAD, LADONNA R
HENDERSON, BARBARA SHREE
HENDERSON, GLENDA GAIL
HILL, BETTY ANN
HILL, E H
HILL, ERNST HENRY
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COMMUNITY NEWS

New Books at the Elba Public Library:

LARGE PRINT CHRISTIAN FICTION
Henderson, Dee—The Negotiator
Logan, Laurel Oke—Impasse
Oncutt, Jane—The Fugitive Heart
Palmer, Catherine—English Ivy
Pearl, Jan—Folly's Bride
Wick, Lori—The Pursuit

LARGE PRINT FICTION
Cookson, Catherine—The Black Candle
Cookson, Catherine—The Wingless Bird
Greenwood, Leigh—The Independent Bride
Howard, Linda—The MacKenzie's
Rice, Patricia—Carolina Girl
Ross, JoAnn—Out of the Blue
Whitney, Phyllis A.—Daughter of the Stars
Whitney, Phyllis A.—Star Flight

FICTION
100 Years of Crime Stories by McBain, Ed—Hark!



Another long-time employee of The National Security Group has retired. Molly Stellner has retired after 43 years of service as a Commissions Accounting Specialist with National Security Insurance Company. The Company held a reception in her honor at the Company's home office in Elba on July 30. Molly is pictured here with Doug Martin, Vice-President of National Security Insurance Company.

8157-APE 100

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48 months	3.75% APR*
60 months	3.90% APR*
72 months	4.99% APR*

NEW BOATS

Under \$15,000	5.90% APR* (60 mo.)
Over \$15,000	5.90% APR* (120 mo.)

NEW RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

Over \$50,000	5.35% APR* (143 mo.)
\$20,000 - \$49,999	5.50% APR* (143 mo.)
Under \$20,000	6.00% APR* (60 mo.)

Rates effective June 1, 2004 and subject to change without notice.

*APR (Annual Percentage Rate)

Daleville, Destin, DeFuniak Springs, Dothan North, Dothan South, Fort Rucker, Enterprise East, Enterprise West, Mobile West, Mobile Downtown, Ozark North, Ozark South, Troy

1-800-448-4098 334-598-4411 www.sacfcu.com

Funds federally insured by NCUA

2005 Coffee County Junior Miss Scholarship program set for Saturday, Aug. 7, in Enterprise

Enjoy an evening of talent as some of Coffee County's outstanding young high school girls compete for over \$4,000 in scholarship awards Saturday, Aug. 7, during the 2005 Coffee County Junior Miss Scholarship program.

The event will be held at the Enterprise High School auditorium and will begin at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are currently on sale or can be purchased at the door.

Contestants will be Hilary Elise Davis, Anna Marie Harrison, Carolyn Marie Webers, Sonya Keum Hornsby, Jamie Rebecca Boyd and Cameron Marie Irwin.

Featured entertainment will include a performance by Mary Kathryn Rhyne (Coffee County Junior Miss 2004) joined by Tyler Mills. Other entertainment by Emily Ann Quattlebaum (Dale County Junior Miss 2004).

For more information, call Dana Newsome at 393-2630.

Interested citizens working to build a new playground for Elba's children

The Kiwanis Club of Elba has teamed up with some local Moms to build a new playground for Elba's children.

The project coordinators are Jill Dunn and Kristin Gummels. \$364 has already been raised for this project with a goal of \$3,000 set to be acquired by September. She said the \$3,000 is needed to pay for a design team.

A public meeting will be held Saturday, Aug. 21, at 10 a.m. at the park on Claxton Avenue. In the event of rain, this meeting will be rescheduled.

Dunn said the meeting will pertain to fund raising and deciding which company to use to design the park.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

For more information, call Jill Dunn at 897-3971 or 897-6503 or Kristin Gummels at 897-2802.

Farm Service Agency county committee elections open

It's election time for participants in USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) programs. The county committee election process has begun, and America's farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers are urged to nominate local producers to serve.

"County committees play an important role in the local implementation and oversight of FSA programs," said David W. Eddy, county executive director. "We urge all producers to participate in our local committee elections."

Farmers who serve on county committees help ensure FSA agricultural programs adequately serve the needs of local producers. Committees make decisions on county commodity price-support loan eligibility, establishment of allotments and yields, conservation programs, disaster programs, employment and other issues. USDA is implementing an enhanced outreach program to encourage

greater participation in the county election process by socially disadvantaged and minority farmers.

"Any agricultural producer, who resides within the local administrative area from which a member of his or her county committee is being elected, or who is participating or cooperating in an FSA program, may become a nominee. The following are specific examples of persons who may be eligible to participate in the election process if they participate or cooperate in an FSA program: an owner, operator, tenant, or sharecropper, a spouse listed on the producer deed, the spouse of an eligible voter in a community property state; a member of an Indian tribe holding agricultural land; a partner in a general partnership or member of a joint venture who has an interest in a farm as an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper; and someone who is not of legal voting age, but who supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. In addition, eligible candidates can be nominated by community-based organizations in the county or area before the close of the nomination period, especially groups representing socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers. Nominations and alternates take office on Jan. 1, 2005.

Nomination forms (FSA-669A) can be obtained from local FSA offices or USDA Service Centers or online at <http://forsa.usda.gov/forsa/orms/mainserve.vrt>.

Details on FSA COC elections can be found on the Internet at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pubs/elections/>.

C.C. Schools announce Child Find program

The Coffee County School System is in the process of identifying all persons with disabilities, ages 3-21 years, who are not enrolled in an educational setting, and all 0-3 year old children with disabilities.

Parents of children with disabilities or anyone who knows of someone who is disabled, is encouraged to contact the principal of the local school or the special education coordinator's office at the Coffee County Board of Education at (334) 897-5016.

It is important that all persons

Don't Forget to...

recycle

COMMUNITY NEWS

Degree completion program available in Andalusia

Faulkner University will continue to offer a degree completion program in Andalusia, offering a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration (BBA) on the LBW Community College campus in Andalusia.

The program is ideal for working adults who must attend classes at night. Faulkner Miss Labor Day pageant to be held in Andalusia

Young ladies hoping to pursue college degrees may have another reason to cheer this fall. The LBW Community College is hosting the Miss Labor Day Pageant August 21, 2004, for ages 21-21. The event will be held at Lurleen B. Wallace Center.

Miss Labor Day Queen, 2004 in the 17-21 age category, will receive a \$2500 scholarship with her first alternate receiving \$150 scholarship and her second alternate receiving \$100 scholarship.

There will be a \$500 savings bond, banner and trophy awarded to each queen in all other categories. All first and second alternates will receive a banner and trophy. A memorable picture frame and banner will be awarded to each contestant that is named Miss Photogenic for their division.

Contestants are as follows: Baby Miss (0-18 months); Toddler Miss (19-35 months); Tot Miss (3-4 Years); Tiny Miss (5-6 Years); Petite Miss (7-8 Years); Mini Miss (9-10 Years); Junior Miss (11-12 Years); Pre-Teen Miss (13-14 Years); Teen Miss (15-16 Years); Miss Labor Day (17-21 Years).

For application requests or information concerning the pageant you may contact Tina O'Neal 334/222-8401 days or 334/493-6393 evenings and/or Edra Jones 334/222-1168 days or 334/485-6100 evenings.

HOME FOR SALE



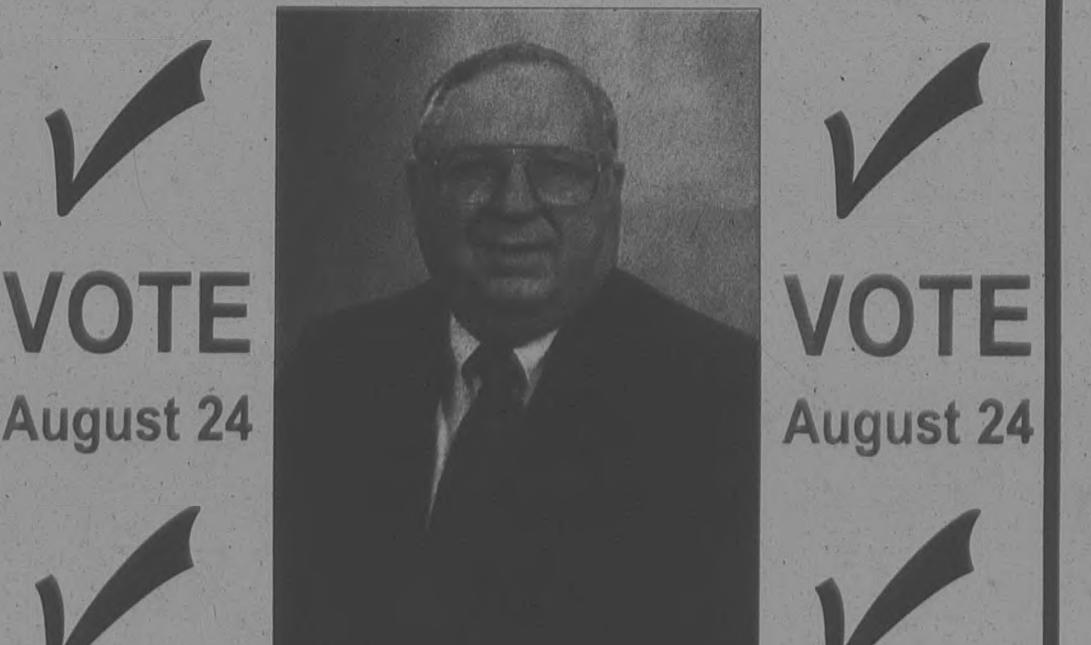
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Brick With Vinyl Siding - 3 BR - 2 Bath - Carport
Kitchen & Den Remodeled - New Cabinets,
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320 Sq. Ft. Outside Storage
680 Sq. Ft. Outside Shelter
All Located Behind 7' Cypress Fence

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EIGHT YEARS of PROGRESS!



COFFEE COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK & MEAT JUDGING TEAMS COMPETE AT STATE
Back row from left - Stan Windham, Mark Windham, New Brockton; Heath Hollis, New Brockton; Kristin Spinks, Elba; Tierney Stars, Elba; Lara Lea Beasley, Zion Chapel; Donna Flowers, Zion Chapel; Brandon Griswold, New Brockton. Front row from left - Brian Bailey, Elba; Amber Henderson, Coffee Springs; Michelle Jones, Enterprise; Tori Stone, New Brockton; Keri Flowers, Zion Chapel; Not Pictured - Julie Boyd, Enterprise. The Livestock Judging Team placed 4th while the Meat Judging Team placed 3rd.

COFFEE COUNTY 4-H MEAT JUDGING TEAM WINS District Competition - Front row from left - Buddy Skipper, Enterprise; K.D. Barnes, Enterprise; Claire Bailey, New Brockton. Middle row from left - Tori Stone, New Brockton; Michelle Jones, Enterprise; Keri Flowers, Zion Chapel; Meagan Jones, New Brockton. Back row from left - Brandon Bell, New Brockton; Donna Flowers, Zion Chapel; Lara Lea Beasley, Zion Chapel; Julie Boyd, Enterprise; Tierney Stars, Elba; Stan Windham. Not Pictured - Brian Bailey, Elba. Both the Senior and Junior Team placed first at District competition held at Auburn University.

Coffee Baptist Association to offer courses

The Board of Directors of the National Security Group, Inc., declared a quarterly dividend of \$21 per share at its meeting on July 17, 2004. This represents

an annual indicating dividend rate of \$8.40 per share. This cash dividend is payable on August 31, 2004 to shareholders of record August 2, 2004.

National Security declares quarterly dividend

Samford University and Judson College with Coffee Baptist Association will offer classes in Coffee County starting on Monday, August 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Coffee County Baptist Center at 603 E. McKinnon in New Brockton. Classes begin on August 16 and continue through November 29, 2004.

Children's Choir Methods will be taught by Dr. Denice Tipton, Ed. D., University of Alabama and The Gospel of Mark will be taught by Dr. John Granger, Th.D., NOBTS.

Samford University will give continuing education credits. Judson College will award college credit to those attending the classes and meeting assignment requirements.

For further information, call (334) 894-6411.

2004 Fall Registration
REGULAR REGISTRATION
(All Campuses)
ANDALUSIA/GREENVILLE/MACARTHUR

2004 Fall Registration

REGULAR REGISTRATION

(All Campuses)

ANDALUSIA/GREENVILLE/MACARTHUR

Tuesday, August 17, 2004

8 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

LATE REGISTRATION
(All Campuses)
Drop/Add Period: August 18 - 23, 2004
Classes Begin August 18, 2004

Andalusia/Greenville Campus (334) 222-6591 ext. 2271
MacArthur Campus (334) 493-3573 ext. 5333

Re-Elect James Grimes Mayor City of Elba

"A quiet man with strong convictions about what's good for Elba. He's willing and able to continue working for you!"

Pd Pol Adv by James E. Grimes, P O Box 551, Elba, AL 36323

COMMUNITY NEWS



BIG DOG WINNER...Clark Logan and his six-months-old Yellow Lab, Bo, took the first place trophy last Thursday, July 29, during Elba's Pets on Parade for the big dog division.



SMILE FOR THE JUDGE...Pets on Parade judge Brian Swensen, a representative from the SOS Animal Shelter of Enterprise, plays with Gracie, the 2-year-old Chihuahua of Savannah Williamson (left).

Complete list of entrants for Pets on Parade:

Large Dogs:

Clark Logan with Bo; Janzen Flowers with Rock; Sydney Williamson with Stew.

Small Dogs:

Chace Sauls with Roxie Sauls Hayes; Spicer with Tinkerbell; Tink; Madelyn Kelley with Dakota; Chace Sauls with Millie Sauls.

Judges were from the SOS Animal Shelter in Enterprise.

Elba Chamber of Commerce plans fund raising event for Thursday, Aug. 12

The Elba Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a fund raiser to purchase lighted and landscaped brick entrance signs for the city.

The event will be held Thursday, Aug. 12, at the Elba Recreation Center on Claxton Avenue beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Chamber board members, economic development board members, the city council, Elba queen and political candidates for upcoming elections are being asked to sponsor a table.

Approximately 300 people are expected to attend.

Tables will be provided, but each person who sponsors a table will be responsible for table decorations along with

tableware. The menu will include: pork chops, baked potato, salad, dessert, bread and tea.

Entertainment will be provided, and political candidates will be recognized, given an opportunity to introduce themselves and announce what office he/she is seeking.

Please call the Elba Chamber of Commerce office (897-3125) for more information.

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The Elba Clipper

Volume 108, Number 9

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, August 12, 2004

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 3 Adv. Inserts

With communication lines open

New Brockton mayor asks county to work with town in resolving waterline relocation problem

by Linda Hodge, Editor

New Brockton Mayor Charles Cole addressed county commissioners Monday, Aug. 9, during the regular bimonthly meeting of the commission.

Cole said he came to the meeting to try and convey the problem regarding County Road 517.

"The problem from the beginning has been communication," he said. "We have consistently asked that someone come and talk with us."

Cole said New Brockton wants to see better roads for the citizens, but if (the town) works under a different budget than the county. He said the town's water board had requested the county's help in relocating the water line on County Road 517 to make way for the paving of that road, however, no one from the county had ever actually attended a water board meeting.

"I believe if you (commissioners) had known there was no such communication, you wouldn't have suggested going

ahead and doing the work and sending us (New Brockton water board) a bill," Cole said.

"You wouldn't have suggested your attorney send us a letter with a deadline to move it."

The mayor said the town officials want to work with the county just as they have in the past, and they will work with the county on this project.

"The problem from day one has been communication. There's been no communication," he said. "It's not a problem that can't be solved."

Cole said he believes New

Help Elba firefighters

Fill the Boot

Help Elba firefighters

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